

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 144582
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 TRSE-00 SS-15 EB-08 SP-02
OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 ICA-11 /070 R

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APPROVED BY ARA/ECA:RWZIMMERMANN

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P 072210Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 144582

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, EFIN, IBRD, IDB, UY

SUBJECT: VOCATIONAL TRAINING LOAN TO URUGUAY

REF: STATE 135966

1. MINISTER TALAMAS (PEREZ CALDAS WAS OUT OF TOWN) SEEMED PLEASED WITH INFORMATION U.S. WILL SUPPORT URUGUAY'S APPLICATION FOR \$8 MILLION LOAN FOR VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

2. IN ADVISING TALAMAS OF U.S. POSITION, ARA/ECA DIRECTOR ZIMMERMANN MADE IT CLEAR THAT OUR SUPPORT WAS BASED ON FACT LOAN MEETS CRITERIA OF BASIC HUMAN NEEDS. SUCH LOANS ARE NOT AUTOMATICALLY APPROVED, HOWEVER, AND CRITICAL ELEMENT IN TIPPING THE SCALES WAS GOU COOPERATION WITH NAS AND ABA VISITS. IT WAS VERY CLEARLY POINTED OUT THAT MORE SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS TO IMPROVE HUMAN RIGHTS ARE ESSENTIAL IF U.S. IS EVENTUALLY TO SUPPORT LOANS THAT ARE NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO BASIC HUMAN NEEDS.

3. AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE LATTER CASE, ZIMMERMANN CITED THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 144582

PENDING \$108 MILLION UTE POWER PROJECT LOAN WHICH DOES NOT MEET OUR CRITERIA FOR BASIC HUMAN NEEDS. HE SAID THAT SIGNIFICANT HUMAN RIGHTS IMPROVEMENTS WOULD BE NECESSARY BEFORE WE COULD SUPPORT THIS LOAN AND BY WAY OF ILLUSTRATION

TICKED OFF THE ABA RECOMMENDATIONS, ELIMINATION OF PRESS CENSORSHIP AND OPENING A DIALOGUE WITH TRADITIONAL-PARTY

POLITICIANS.

4. WITHOUT FURTHER COMMENT, TALAMAS SAID HE UNDERSTOOD. HE LATER TELEPHONED, HOWEVER, TO SAY THAT FOR THE RECORD HE WISHED TO STATE THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS OPPOSED TO THE INTRODUCTION OF POLITICAL MATTERS INTO THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

5. THESE POINTS WERE REINFORCED IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR PEREZ CALDAS ON JUNE 6. HE COMMENTED THAT HE WAS AWARE THE U.S. COULD NOT BLOCK LOAN BUT U.S. VOTE WAS IMPORTANT. ALMOST AS AN ASIDE, HE REMARKED THAT GOU WAS WAITING FOR POSITIVE SIGNALS FROM U.S. WE REITERATED THAT THE LACK OF ANY SIGNIFICANT MOVEMENT ON HUMAN RIGHTS CONTINUES TO PREVENT ANY FURTHER RESPONSE FROM US. DISCUSSION THEN MOVED INTO GENERAL HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN WHICH THERE WAS NOTHING NEW AS WE WENT OVER LONG FAMILIAR GROUND. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VOCATIONAL TRAINING, HUMAN RIGHTS, POLICIES, LOANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE144582
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RWZIMMERMANN:NG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780238-0766
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780684/aaaacurt.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8fd2cc8f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 135966
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2448742
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VOCATIONAL TRAINING LOAN TO URUGUAY
TAGS: SHUM, EFIN, UY, US, IBRD, IDB
To: MONTEVIDEO
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8fd2cc8f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014